

SENATE BILL 2587
By Woodson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-933, relative to Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-933, is amended by deleting the word "public" wherever it appears.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-933(f), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead:

(f)

(1) Before a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant may be awarded, a student shall apply for all available financial aid, including, but not limited to, the Tennessee HOPE scholarship or Tennessee HOPE access grant, if eligible, and funds provided through the federal Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, if applicable. All financial assistance available to a student, other than the Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant, shall be applied to the student's total cost of attendance, as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 1087II, prior to the granting of a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant.

(2) A Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant for a student attending an eligible public postsecondary institution shall cover any costs of tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees and required registration or matriculation fees remaining after applying all other student financial assistance from all sources towards the student's cost of attendance.

(3) A Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant for a student attending an eligible four-year independent postsecondary institution shall be the cost of tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees and required registration or matriculation fees remaining after applying all other student financial assistance from all sources towards the student's cost of attendance, or the average of the sum of full tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees and required registration and matriculation fees charged at all four-year public postsecondary institutions, whichever is less. A Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant for a student attending an eligible two-year independent postsecondary institution shall be the cost of tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees and required registration or matriculation fees remaining after applying all other student financial assistance from all sources towards the student's cost of attendance, or the average of the sum of full tuition, maintenance fees, student activity fees and required registration and matriculation fees charged at all two-year public postsecondary institutions, whichever is less.

(4) Notwithstanding any provision of this part to the contrary, a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or Tennessee HOPE access grant awarded to a student eligible for a Tennessee HOPE foster child tuition grant may be used for the cost of room and board, which shall not exceed the maximum cost of room and board provided through the facilities of the eligible postsecondary institution that the student is attending.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.